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As Easy As Pi

Stuff about numbers that isn't (just) maths

Jamie Buchan

Description

In this day and age it's hard to imagine a world without numbers. Our lives are centred around commerce and money, and it is the only language that's the same the world over. However, did you know that for a long period of time people could not get their heads around the idea of zero, a figure representing nothing, and that it was even regarded as heretical in some circles? *As Easy As Pi* is an entertaining and accessible guide, written for those who love numbers – and those who don't – and uncovers a great deal of lore and intriguing information. Including:

Snippets of fascinating numerical facts

Myths and mysticism in the world of numbers

Numbers in language and used as slang

Pop culture trivia

Useful mathematical rules to remember

Taking a quirky and insightful look at the world of numbers, *As Easy As Pi* will delight and entertain any number enthusiast.

Sales Points

- An intriguing and accessible look at the universal language of numbers and how they shaped our history and our culture
- From fascinating mathematical patterns and uses of numbers in language to pop culture facts relating to numbers
- This fresh and fun approach to numbers will entertain and educate even the most anxious numerophobe
- Part of the million-copy bestselling series, the hardback has sold over 43,000 copies

Reviews

- 'Fascinating... as much for those who hated maths at school as it is for those who love numbers' - *The Lady*
- 'A fab gift for anyone who loves facts and figures about numbers. It'll keep anoraks like me amused for hours. I loved it!' - *Now*

Author Biography

Jamie Buchan, formerly a Queen's Scholar of Westminster School and now an undergraduate at the University of Edinburgh, has always been interested by the mathematical and cultural significance of numbers. He is a great-grandson of the writer and statesman John Buchan (first Lord Tweedsmuir), whose definitive thrillers, among them *The Thirty-Nine Steps* and *Greenmantle*, have been bestsellers for many years; *The Thirty-Nine Steps* has been filmed three times - memorably by Alfred Hitchcock in 1935, with Robert Donat and Madeleine Carroll. A nephew of the highly regarded novelist James Buchan and the gardening writer and journalist Ursula Buchan, he is also related to the bestselling novelist Elizabeth Buchan. In short, books are in his blood, although he makes no claim for his own writing as against the works of his distinguished relations. This, his first book, shows that numbers are also in his blood; not only did John Buchan write *The Thirty-Nine Steps*, but among his other novels are *The Three Hostages* and *The House of the Four Winds*.

Michael O'Mara.

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